

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07  
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00  
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 XMB-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15  
NSC-05 L-03 /082 W

----- 113497 /60

R 131647Z DEC 76  
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2564  
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2857  
USMISSION OECD PARIS  
AMEMBASSY

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 12213

PASS EXIMBANK AND TREASURY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EFIN, EEC  
SUBJECT: EXPORT CREDIT CONSENSUS: EC OMPETENCY ISSUE

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 11055, (B) EC BRUSSELS 10581

1. WE CONTACTED HAY, SOAMES CABINET, AND ARCHIBALD, DG-I, TO GET UPDATE ON STATUS OF EFFORTS TO RESOLVE COMPETENCY ISSUE BETWEEN COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATES ON EXPORT CREDIT CONSENSUS. HAY, WHO HAS BEEN AN EXCELLENT SOURCE ON THIS SUBJECT IN THE PAST, AND OPTIMISTIC ON PROSPECTS FOR SETTLEMENT (REF A), CONFESSED HE WAS NOT UP TO DATE. ARCHIBALD, HOWEVER, TOLD US THAT COMMISSION IS HOPEFUL FOR AN EARLY RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE, POSSIBLY AT THE JANUARY FINANCE COUNCIL. THE SOLE OBSTACLE TO RESOLUTION OF THE SITUATION REMAINED THE FRENCH. WHEN ISSUE IS RAISED IN COUNCIL, ALL EYES TURN TO FRENCH REP, WHO, SO FAR, HAS BEEN UNABLE TO GIVE GOF POSITION. ARCHIBALD COULD POINT TO NO SPECIFIC INDICATION THAT FRENCH WOULD COME AROUND, BUT, IN HER OPINION, PRESSURE ON FRENCH WAS TOO GREAT TO WITHSTAND FOR LONG. SHE SAID CONTINUE PRESSURE ON FRENCH WAS NEEDED, AND THAT U.S. STATEMENT IN OECD MEETING WAS HELPFUL.

2. WE EXPRESSED TO BOTH OFFICIALS OUR CONTINUED  
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CONCERN THAT COMPETENCY ISSUE BE RESOLVED TO CLEAR WAY

FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF FUTURE CONSENSUS. BOTH AGREED ON IMPORTANCE OF EARLY RESOLUTION. ISSUE WOULD BE KEPT AT COUNCIL LEVEL. ARCHIBALD ADDED THAT BRITISH WERE ALSO VERY ANXIOUS TO BRING CONSENSUS WITHIN A COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK, AND WOULD USE LEADERSHIP POSITION TO PURSUE MATTER VIGOROUSLY.

3. COMMENT: WE HOPE ARCHIBALD'S OPTIMISM ON THIS MATTER TURNS OUT TO BE CORRECT, BUT NOTE ABSENCE OF ANY CONCRETE EVIDENCE THAT FRENCH ARE IN FACT SOFTENING THEIR LONG-STANDING POSITION. END COMMENT. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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